

CLAIMS:

What is claimed is:

1. (Original) A method in a data processing system for indicating most recent messages in a related thread of messages in a message file, the method comprising:
 - responsive to a first user input selecting a message for processing, determining whether a more recent message in the thread of related messages is present in the message file; and
 - presenting a first indication of the more recent message if the more recent message in the thread of related messages is present in the message file.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
 - responsive to a second user input to send the message, determining whether the more recent message in the thread of related messages has been received in the message file; and
 - presenting a second indication of the more recent message if the more recent message in the thread of related messages has been received in the message file.
3. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein each message in the message file includes a set of globally unique identifiers and wherein the step of determining whether the more recent message in the thread of related messages is present in the message file includes using globally unique identifiers to determine whether the more recent message in the thread of related messages is present in the message file.
4. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the step of determining whether the more recent message in the thread of related messages is present in the message file includes heuristically analyzing header information in each document present in the message file to determine whether the more recent message in the thread of related messages is present in the message file.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising:
responsive to presenting the first indication, providing a user an ability to select
the more recent message in the thread of related messages for processing.
6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the message is an email message.
7. (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein the first user input is a selection of the
email message for a reply.
8. (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein the first user input is a selection of the
email message to be forwarded.
9. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the first user input begins a workflow
step and the second user input ends the workflow step.
10. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the method is implemented in a client
email application executing on the data processing system.

11-32. (Canceled)